



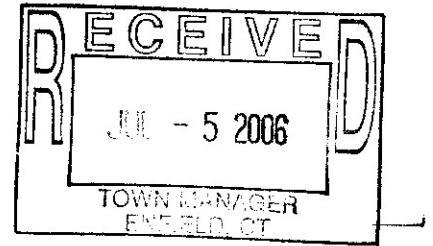
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone:

June 27, 2006



Mr. Daniel Vindigni
Interim Town Manager
Town of Enfield
820 Enfield Street
Enfield, Connecticut 06082-2997

Dear Mr. Vindigni:

Subject: State Bridge Program
F.A.P. No. BHX-0005(105) (P.E.)
State Project No. 48-188
Bridge No. 00445 in Enfield
U.S. Route 5 over I-91
Community Concerns

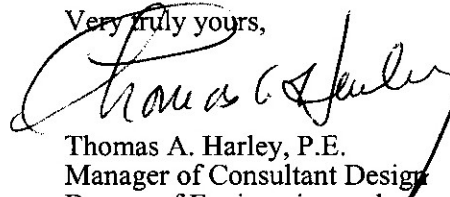
The Department is preparing plans for the rehabilitation of Bridge No. 00445, which carries U.S. Route 5 (Enfield Street) over I-91 in Enfield.

It is anticipated that construction will start no sooner than the spring of 2008, assuming acceptance of the project, availability of funding and receipt of any required right-of-way and environmental permits.

It is the Department's policy to inform town officials and the public when such projects are undertaken. It is important that the community share its concerns with us to assist in the project's development. We will be contacting you in the near future to discuss the project as well. We would appreciate it if you would inform local agencies, departments, commissions, and municipally owned utilities of the proposed improvement, and advise the Department of any local work to be coordinated or specific features that should be considered in the design process.

Accordingly, a news release providing information on the project has been developed and will be issued in the near future. Enclosed are several copies of the preliminary news release and a project location plan for your use and distribution to local officials and other interested persons. If you wish more information on this project at this time, please feel free to contact Mr. Joseph C. Cancelliere at (860) 594-3208.

Very truly yours,


Thomas A. Harley, P.E.
Manager of Consultant Design
Bureau of Engineering and
Highway Operations

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Lyle Wray, Executive Director
Capitol Region Council of Governments

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: UPON RECEIPT

NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT – The State Department of Transportation has begun the preliminary design phase of the proposed rehabilitation of Bridge No. 00445, which carries U.S. Route 5 (Enfield Street) over I-91 in Enfield, State Transportation Commissioner Stephen E. Korta, II, announced today.

Bridge No. 00445, built in 1959, carries two lanes of Route 5 traffic in both the northbound and southbound directions and is situated at the Exit 49 interchange of I-91 just south of the Massachusetts border. The project is necessary to correct both structural and functional deficiencies. The structural deficiencies consist primarily of deterioration of the reinforced concrete deck. The superstructure steel beams have sustained collision damage due to the substandard vertical clearance over I-91, and the bridge roadway width between curbs is too narrow to efficiently accommodate vehicular traffic. These height and width deficiencies deem the bridge functionally obsolete. The rehabilitation measures proposed to address these deficiencies consist of replacing the concrete deck and its steel framing with a two-span continuous superstructure comprised of a reinforced concrete deck on shallower steel girders. The decreased superstructure depth in conjunction with minor elevation increases, will achieve an improved minimum vertical clearance over I-91. The proposed curb-to-curb roadway width increase from 48 feet to 50 feet will satisfy requirements for functional adequacy. Construction will be performed in two stages to replace approximately one-half of the superstructure in each stage. During construction, the number of lanes on the bridge will be reduced from four to two such that one lane of Route 5 traffic in each direction is maintained during each stage. Temporary lane and/or shoulder closures will be implemented on I-91 during off-peak traffic periods as required for work beneath the bridge. Short-term off-peak full closures of I-91 will also be necessary to remove the existing superstructure and erect the new steel beams.

"It is the Department's policy to keep persons informed and involved when such projects are undertaken," said Korta. "It is important that the community be involved and share its concerns with us to assist in the project's development." A public informational meeting will be conducted once preliminary plans have been prepared.

It is anticipated that construction will start no sooner than the spring of 2008, assuming acceptance of the project, availability of funding, and receipt of any required right-of-way and environmental permits.

Anyone interested in requesting information on this project should contact Mr. Joseph C. Cancelliere, Bureau of Engineering and Highway Operations, Department of Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, P. O. Box 317546, Newington, Connecticut 06131-7546. Please refer to Project No. 48-188 in all correspondence.